

## EPA Record of Communication

EPA Staff: Jennifer Siu, Wetlands Section

Date of Communication: January 8, 2016

Person/Company: Chris Barr, USFWS Don Edwards Wildlife Refuge

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### Summary of Conversation:

Chris confirmed that the brine shrimp fishery within the commercial salt ponds had been a substantial operation at one time, and that USFWS had regulated it. He was not involved directly with regulating brine shrimp as it was before his time at the Refuge, but he had heard of it from other staffers. Specifically, USFWS required special-use permits for brine shrimp production and harvesting within the salt ponds under Refuge ownership (but salt making rights still reserved by Leslie/Cargill Salt). In the 1990's, with the increased focus on acquisition of salt ponds by the Refuge, USFWS conducted a compatibility assessment that determined that the shrimp fishery was not compatible with Refuge mandates. Afterwards, special-use permits were no longer given for ponds in the Refuge.

**B5 Deliberative**

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